Publisher: Square Enix
Mangaka: Sakihata Io

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**Pendulum of Hell**

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THE DARK NIGHT WAS DYED WITH THE COLOUR OF FRESH BLOOD...
PENDULUM OF HELL

At that time, the death god said,
"Ah, my scythe has turned red once again..."

冥界のペンドゥラム
PENDULUM OF HELL
THE FINAL PAGE OF THAT STORY WILL BE WRITTEN IN THE SPACE BETWEEN FICTION AND REALITY.
其の物語の最後の一頁は虚構と現実の狭間で生み出される。
The popular mystery author appears in another form...
A fantasy suspense story by a new artist!
咲畑いお
Sakihata Io

but of thee,
O, Lord.
Of whom may we seek for succour,

who For our sins
art justly
displeased...
Did you know the man who passed away?

But...
Perhaps I do have some connection.
No, I'm a complete stranger.

Does he really exist?
It can't be...
How many people is it now?
He still hasn't been caught?
Huh?

"The Death God with a Red Scythe" ...
"The Death God with a Red Scythe", eh?
.....
Have you heard about it, Reverend?
Of course I have
It's a best-selling mystery novel.
Everyone's heard of it
I'm a big fan of the writer, Mr Pendulum.
Hmm...
Things must be difficult for Mr Pendulum too
Having his name become known like this ...

むっ
Mr. Pendulum was already very famous
before these strange serial murders even began!
ゴホッ
I'm sorry

My name is Cross.
Pendulum.
What's yours?
I'm a writer.

I'm not...
What good would that do?
YOU'RE LYING!
Mr. Pendulum
Huh?!
Huh...
Hey...
Is that...
true?
It's true.
IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME NOW!?!

I forgot where we were...
I'm sorry.
.....

If I may say so myself,
I'm quite a fan.
Actually, I...
Cover
It's not a Bible!
Of course, I always carry your book with me!
I'll try my best not to get too excited.
Ah, that would be good.

You were shouting it in a loud voice earlier
So it would be better for you to keep your name a secret
ooooo
The killer is causing people to panic...
The killer is unforgivable...
I can't believe he's imitating Mr. Pendulum's novels and killing people...!

The victim this time was also slashed with something like a scythe
Apparently most of the blood in his body flowed out
Because of the moonlight, even in the darkness
Scotland Yard was able to see
that one side was bright red

someone gets killed by the death god during nights with a red moon.
In your best-selling novel, "The Death God with a Red Scythe",
Only criminals are killed.

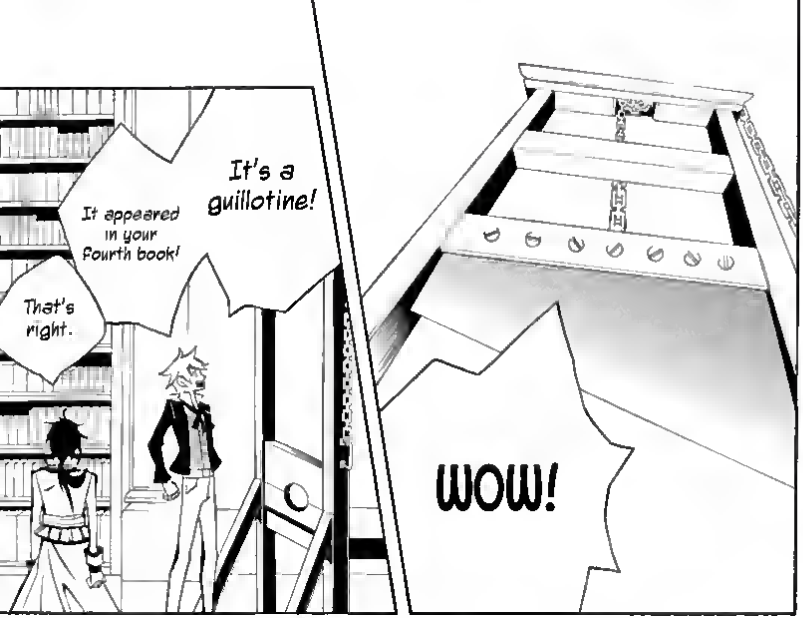
Criminals should be condemned.

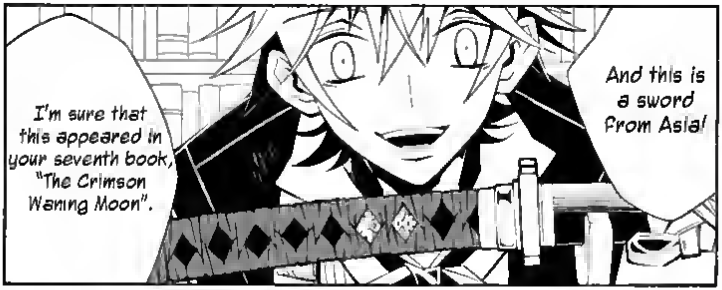
No...
I'm just..
How interesting.
You're a strange priest.

.....
If only the death god would kill that criminal too..

Actually...
Hmm?
I'm just one of the wandering sheep.
I'm thinking of putting a priest into my next novel.

Could I ask you a few things?
Research, you mean?
Of course you can!


It's a guillotine!
It appeared in your fourth book!
That's right.
WOW!


I'm sure that this appeared in your seventh book, "The Crimson Waning Moon".
And this is a sword from Asia!

the finer details of novels need to be realistic.
Although they are fiction,

That's why I had you come here today.
.....
Umm..
Actually, I...

That's..
Isn't that one of the greatest wines, Romanée-Conti?!
And that glass...
Isn't it a high quality Harcourt?!

It looks like
the cup that was used at the Last Supper, doesn't it?
Actually, I...
I don't believe in God.

That's no good for your research, right?
No, it'll actually be good material
Hehe
Is that so?

when I lost my right hand
in an accident
during my childhood
I realised that God doesn't exist

Umm...
You come to the church often, don't you?
You've been coming almost every day recently
I thought that was for research too...
But could it be...

You thought that your work was the cause of these crimes
and you were repenting for it...

Ah...

I
Or...

did that make you angry?
I'm sorry,

It can't be...
THE KILLER...

Didn't you notice back then?
Hey, you...

THE KILLER...

SWAT
SWAT
IS ME!
You already knew, didn't you?

When you were six, you were sold by your parents
so there would be fewer mouths to feed
Yes, I had some
Ah, a first edition copy of "The Murders in the Rue Morgue" by Poe.
general information about you

Isn't that right?
When you escaped, someone from the church happened to find you.
How...
How do you know about me?!

I told you.
I'm writing about a priest.
I...
I don't understand.
Just who on earth are you?!
I've prepared several ways for you to die.

NOW,
WHICH ONE WOULD YOU LIKE?
Your next move will decide the end.
So...
What will you do?
.....

Ah,
Mr. Pendulum.

Ah...
But
what should I do?
I won't be able to read your novels anymore

I still can't believe that
I'm talking to you...

IF I KILL YOU...

Today shall be the day of the ceremony
when I truly become the death god which you created.

And I...
I'll be baptised in your blood.

But when I heard you were Mr. Pendulum,
I made up my mind...

will send the sinner to Hell!
I'LL BE REBORN AS THAT GOD OF DEATH!
Death Red Sickle
So that's how it's going to be?

.....!?
Where am I...?!

A RED
MOON...!

Ahh...

Ahhh!
I see...
.....
This is...
The world from that beautiful novel?!
I'm inside
Mr. Pendulum's book?!
Ah...

IF THAT'S TRUE...
THEN I'M A VERY HAPPY MAN!
HA HA HA HA

Death Red
Once again, you did something quite terrible.

When that scene is read,
he will be killed over and over again
IN HELL.

FOR ETERNITY.
HUFF
HUFF
Enough already!
What's going on?
How many times has it been now?
Waaah!

And what about the book review requested by The Times?
HEY.
I think it's about time you found a more normal way of killing people.
I have no interest in reading the clumsy words
of an immature popular author
You haven't forgotten that the deadline is tomorrow, have you?
I'll bring you the usual champagne truffles
when you've finished it.
It's an editor's job to bring one or two refreshments to a big name author, right?

ANOTHER MAN'S TRAGEDY
IS MY COMEDY.
THE END
Please look forward to Sakihata Io-sensei's next work!